plantation property. This may be (i) by way of purchase out of funds received by way of inward remittance through normal banking channels or by debit to his NRE/FCNR(B)/NRO account, (ii) by way of gift from a person resident in India or a NRI or a PIO, and (iii) by way of inheritance from a person resident in India or a person resident outside India who had acquired such property in accordance with the provisions of the foreign exchange law in force or FEMA regualtions at the time of acquisition of the property.

(c) Data in respect of such investment is not maintained by Reserve Bank of India.

(d) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) reported a few cases of foreign nationals of non-Indian origin acquiring immovable property in India.

(e) RBI had referred these cases to the Government and on receipt of the Government's advice, have directed purchasers to:

(i) sell the property to a resident in India.

(ii) Sale proceeds shall not be repatriated outside India without prior approval of Reserve Bank, and

(iii) The contravener should approach Reserve bank for compounding of Contravention under FEMA 1999.

Amendment of Saral form

130. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Saral form under Income Tax Act has been objected to for being not so saral;

(b) if so, what are Government's views on the same; and

(c) whether Government propose to amend the said form?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) In some quarters, a view has been expressed that the new Form 2F is not so Saral. In this regard, the Government has clarified at different fora that the new Form 2F is essentially an expanded version of the existing Naya Saral so as to provide more space to fill out the details. Further, the cash flow statement in Form 2F is intended to protect the salaried taxpayers from any intrusive investigation. In any case, salaried taxpayer has the option of filing Form 2F or the Naya

Saral.This option is available upto 31st July, 2006 which is the due date for filing the tax return. Further, even where a person chooses to file Form 2F, he has the option of not filling out the cash flow statement.

(c) The return forms are assessment year specific. The Government does not propose to amend Form 2F for Assessment year 2006-07.

Reduction of Sales Tax on Petrol and Diesel

†131. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the wake of increase in the prices of petrol and diesel in the first week of June, certain State Governments have reduced the rates of sales tax levied on the above products on the insistence of the Central Government; and

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Sales Tax on Petrol and Diesel

132. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of sales tax on petrol and diesel imposed by the States and UTs, each separately;

(b) the percentage of Central taxes/cess on petrol, diesel and LPG; and

(c) what is the justification of imposing taxes on petrol, LPG and diesel when there is a huge amount of more than Rs. 60,000 crore lying with the oil pool savings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.